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UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Tobacco cultivation and its trade in the presidency.

26 *Q.*—Sri B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) what varieties of tobacco are grown in the Madras Presidency;

(*b*) what the area under tobacco cultivation was in each of the villages in the Madras Presidency during the year 1937–38, giving the village name, the area in each such village, and the variety of tobacco grown in each such village;

(*c*) the several villages in the Madras Presidency which raise Virginia tobacco, and the area in each such village raising the said tobacco during each of the years 1931 to 1937;

(*d*) the company or companies in the Madras Presidency which buy such tobacco from the ryots;

(*e*) the prices of the Virginia tobacco from 1930 to 1937; and

(*f*) the barns erected in each village in the presidency for curing Virginia tobacco, the cost of each such barn, its capacity, its owner, the labour it employs, the period of its working, and the costs of working?

A.—(*a*) The available information is furnished below:—

The varieties of tobacco grown in the Presidency are broadly of two types, namely (1) Country or desi types and (2) Virginia.

Of the country types, there are many different varieties as lankas tobacco of the Kistna and Godavari districts, chewing and cheroot tobacco of the Central and Southern districts called by various names as Usikkappal, Vattakkappal, Vazhaikkappal, Yerumaikkappal, etc.

(*b*) & (*c*) The information regarding the area under the different varieties of tobacco grown in each district is available only for the year 1937–38 and is furnished in the statement attached [a]. Total area under cultivation in each district for the years 1931–37 will be found in Appendix IX of the Season and Crop Report of the Madras Presidency supplied to the Secretariat Library. Particulars regarding the area under tobacco by varieties in each of the villages in the Madras Province is not available with the Government.

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[a] Printed as Appendix IX on page 293 infra.

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(*d*) The following are the companies which purchase Virginia tobacco in the Guntur and other districts:—

(1) Indian Leaf Tobacco Development Company, Chirala, branches in the Guntur district.

(2) National Tobacco Company, Limited, Guntur.

(3) Majeti Sri Sailam Panakalu and Company, Limited, Guntur.

(4) T. N. Nagaratnam and Company, Limited, Guntur.

(5) Zenith Tobacco Company, Limited, Guntur.

(6) Vippurti Narasimham and Company, Limited, Guntur.

(7) Burga Visvanathan and Company, Limited, Guntur.

Besides, there are about hundred small merchants buying virginia tobacco at Guntur.

(*e*) The ruling prices for the virginia tobacco paid by the Indian Leaf Tobacco Development Company, Limited, the largest buyers of this tobacco were as follows:—

Prices in annas per pound.

	1931 to 1935.	1936 and 1937.	1938.
I Grade	9	9½	10
II ,, ...	7	7½	8
III ,, ...	5	5½	6
IV ,, ...	3	3½	4
V ,, ...	1	1½	2

For ungraded tobacco bought by other merchants, prices are very variable according to quality and rose from Rs. 150 to Rs. 180 till 1935, Rs. 200 to Rs. 350 during 1938 per candy of 500 lb. of first arrivals of best flue cured tobacco.

(*f*) There are about 5,000 barns situated mainly in the Guntur district and in parts of Kistna and Godavari districts. Many ryots as well as some curers and merchants own barns. No records of ownership are available. Barns are of two sizes, single and double, and the cost of raising a barn ranges from Rs. 200 to Rs. 500, sometimes Rs. 750 according to size and nature of the construction. A barn cures annually the output of about 20 to 30 acres or 30 to 45 candies of 500 lb. each of tobacco. Barns work in the months January to April and employ, besides a curer and fireman, a few coolies for tying, carrying and charging the tobacco. The curing charges range from Rs. 40 to Rs. 50 per acre of produce.

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Endowments of temples in various taluks and their administration.

27 *Q.*—Sri B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the names of the temples in each village in each revenue taluk in the Presidency which are assessed to contribution under section 69 of the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act;

(*b*) the amount to which each temple is assessed and the income of each temple on which it is assessed;

(*c*) the endowments of each such temple giving particulars as to lands whether dry or wet and the area under each head, as to buildings fetching rent or otherwise, investment, etc.;

(*d*) the trustee or trustees of each such temple and whether they are paid trustees or honorary trustees and the number of archakas employed in each temple and their remuneration;

(*e*) the temples for which executive officers have been appointed, the names of the officers now holding office, and their pay; and

(*f*) the temples still administered by the civil courts acting under court schemes?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) The Government have not the information asked for and it cannot be collected without considerable labour.

(*e*) *&* (*f*) Two lists [a] are placed on the table of the House.

Improvements to certain ports in South Kanara.

28 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any plans and estimates have been framed by expert engineers for the improvement of the ports of Mangalore and Malpe for the entry of large steamers into them throughout the year;

(*b*) if so, when they were framed, and what the approximate cost of the projects were for each of the ports;

(*c*) whether Government have received representations from any persons or bodies in South Kanara for the improvements of either of these ports and what action has been taken thereon; and

(*d*) whether Government have decided to carry out any measures to improve these ports and, if so, in what way and at what cost?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) *&* (*d*) Improvements carried out to the ports of Mangalore and Malpe during the last 10 years are given in the statement [b] annexed. In 1935–36 the

[a] Printed as Appendix X on pages 294–300 infra.
[b] Printed as Appendix XI on page 301 infra.

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Government sanctioned a dredging scheme for the port of Mangalore at a cost of about Rs. 3 lakhs and made a free grant of Rs. 1·68 lakhs to the Landing and Shipping Fund towards the cost of the scheme, which is being worked out. Recently, the Presidency Port Officer submitted estimates amounting to Rs. 2·9 lakhs for reconstruction and extension of north and south wharves at Mangalore and an estimate amounting to Rs. 18,500 for hand-dredging a channel to wharf No. 4, and for constructing masonry retaining walls at the port of Malpe. Proposals for the purchase of a sea-going dredger for the minor ports have also been received recently. These are under the consideration of Government.

(c) Yes; the representations are under consideration.

Proposal, if any, for establishing an aquarium on modern lines.

29 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) when the Marine Aquarium at Madras was built and at what cost;

(b) whether the Government have in contemplation a scheme for establishing an aquarium according to modern requirements for educational purposes and for development of fisheries as well as for exhibition of fishes of various species to the public in general; and

(c) if so, whether plans and estimates have been prepared and at what cost and when provision will be made for carrying them out?

A.—(a) The Aquarium was built in 1909 under an estimate sanctioned for Rs. 11,530.

(b) A proposal to this effect is under consideration.

(c) Rough plans and approximate estimate have been prepared. The cost involved is Rs. 65,000. Provision will be made after a decision has been reached as to whether a fresh building is really necessary or whether the existing one may be continued with some repairs and improvements.

Construction of a new building for the Madras Legislature.

30 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have decided to erect a new building for the Legislative Assembly; and

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(*b*) if not, what accommodation is going to be provided for the Assembly as well as the Legislative Council, and the Secretariat of the Legislature, at what cost and when?

A.—(*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) The approximate cost of a new Parliament House including cost of site would have been about Rs. 20 lakhs. Instead of this it has been decided that certain alterations, extensions and improvements to the existing Secretariat and Council Chamber buildings in the Fort St. George shall be undertaken at a cost of Rs. 2·03 lakhs which will provide adequate accommodation to enable the two Houses of the Legislature to sit, ordinarily at different times but jointly when the necessity arises and accommodation for the office of the Legislature. The alterations and improvements to the Council Chamber will be taken up after this Session of the Council and completed within about six months. The work of extensions to the Secretariat buildings in which the offices of the Legislature will be accommodated has already been taken up and is expected to be completed by August next.

Recognition of medical degrees of the Andhra University.

31 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the recommendations of the Indian Medical Council are for the due recognition of medical graduates of the Andhra University on the basis of necessary experience in a properly equipped, up-to-date medical hospital; and

(*b*) what measures have been adopted and are going to be adopted for the purpose in order to meet the conditions laid down by the Indian Medical Council?

A.—(*a*) The Inspectors of the Medical Council of India who inspected the Medical College, Vizagapatam, in 1937 were unable to say that the college was sufficient for the training of students up to the M.B.B.S. degree particularly because of—

(1) the inadequate accommodation and arrangement for the treatment and teaching in the out-patient department,

(2) the antiquated provision made for midwifery and gynæcology, and

(3) the inadequate space provided for the much improved museums of Anatomy and Physiology.

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(b) The Government have taken measures to remedy the defects pointed out by the Inspectors of the Medical Council of India.

(1) They have sanctioned the construction of a new out-patient department for the King George Hospital, Vizagapatam, including a venereal department and a septic ward at an estimated cost of Rs. 3·15 lakhs and the work is in progress.

(2) They have pointed out to the Medical Council of India that there is at present no difficulty in giving the students of the Vizagapatam Medical College, the required training in obstetrics and gynæcology as, in addition to the training given to them at Vizagapatam, they are brought to Madras for training in the Government Hospital for Women and Children. The Medical Council of India have been informed that there is no immediate necessity to construct a new maternity block at Vizagapatam as the existing accommodation in the hospital is sufficient to admit the number of maternity cases seeking admission in that hospital.

(3) As regards the inadequacy of space for the museums there appears to have been some misconception on the part of the Inspectors of the Medical Council of India. The Principal, Medical College, Vizagapatam, has informed the Medical Council of India that the reference by the Inspectors to the Physiology museum was probably a mistake for the Pathology museum and that a comparison of the past and present position of the museums in Anatomy and Pathology showed a considerable improvement. The previous Inspectors had already admitted that the museum of the Pathology department was excellent and that of the Anatomy department was good.

(4) This Government have also informed the Medical Council of India that arrangements have been made for the students of the Vizagapatam Medical College to get the necessary training in Radiology in the Barnard Institute of Radiology, Madras, when these students come to Madras to undergo the training in obstetrics and Gynæcology and that it is their intention to construct a more up to date operation theatre for the King George Hospital, Vizagapatam, as soon as funds become available.

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(5) The Government have from time to time sanctioned additional staff for the college in accordance with the recommendation of the Inspectors.

Appointments of Commissioners of municipalities, their qualifications, etc.

32 *Q.*—SRI S. A. S. RM. RAMANATHAN CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) the names of municipalities for which Commissioners have been appointed;

(*b*) the names of municipalities for which Commissioners have not been appointed so far; and

(*c*) whether the Government will lay on the table a statement showing—

(1) the names of officers now working as Commissioners and their qualifications;

(2) their caste and nationality;

(3) their previous appointments, and length of service thereon;

(4) their pay in such previous appointments, and their present payment and allowances; and

(5) the travelling allowance and pay paid to them from the inception of the scheme up to 1st October 1938?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) All the municipalities in the Presidency have been notified under section 12 (*c*) of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, for appointment of Commissioners.

(*c*) A statement [a] showing the names of Commissioners, their caste, the appointments previously held by them and their present pay and allowance is laid on the table. Information in regard to the other particulars is not available.

Supply of manure leaves from reserve forests.

33 *Q.*—MR. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to refer to the debates in the Legislative Council, Madras, on the 5th February 1925 (Volume XXII, pages 317 to 331) in connexion with the resolution moved for supply of manure leaves from reserve forests

[a] Printed as Appendix XII on pages 302—304 infra.

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in this Presidency on payment of a seigniorage of 6 annas per cart-load without prejudice to any privileges now obtaining in any part of the Presidency and to state—

(*a*) to what extent and in which districts the resolution passed was enforced and is now in force;

(*b*) which districts were exempted from the operation of the general rule as to exaction of the seigniorage mentioned and in which districts is the exemption still in force and to what extent;

(*c*) on what grounds was the privilege specially based and since what time; and

(*d*) if the privilege has been withdrawn from the exempted districts, from which of them and for what reasons?

A.—(*a*) The resolution was not accepted by Government and the suggested rate of seigniorage was not therefore enforced.

(*b*) *to* (*d*) Do not arise.

Reduction of rates of commission allowed to stamp vendors.

34 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased—

(*a*) to place before the House a statement of the various rates of discount or commission allowed to stamp vendors for sale of judicial and non-judicial stamps including copy stamp papers during the ten years ending the 31st March 1938, and to state—

(*b*) on what grounds the rates have been reduced; and

(*c*) whether Government have received representations complaining of the hardship caused to stamp vendors by the reduction?

A.—(*a*) A statement [a] is appended.

(*b*) The rates of discount were reduced in order to reduce the disproportionately high expenditure incurred by this Government on the collection of stamp revenue as compared with that in other provinces.

(*c*) The answer is in the affirmative. With reference to a representation from the stamp vendors of Negapatam town the Government have ordered that the stamp vendors in that town should be allowed discount at the higher rates prescribed for places in the mufassal within 3 miles of which stamps are sold by the Government.

[a] Printed as Appendix XIII on page 305 infra.

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Investment, if any on irrigation, industrial and other projects in certain districts.

35 *Q.*—MR. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) the revenue and expenditure in the following districts and taluks for the financial years 1931 to 1938:—

Districts.	Taluks.
1 South Kanara.	1 Madakasira (Anantapur district).
2 Bellary.	2 Hosur (Salem district).
3 Nilgiris.	3 Kollegal (Coimbatore district).

(*b*) whether the Provincial Government have invested any amount of money (1) on irrigation, (2) on industrial projects, (3) on any other projects—by way of capital expenditure in any of the districts and taluks mentioned above;

(*c*) if so, how much and what were the main items of such expenditure; and

(*d*) what the annual income was on such investments from 1931 to 1937?

A.—(*a*) The figures of revenue and expenditure for the three districts of South Kanara, Bellary and the Nilgiris for the years 1931–32 to 1937–38 as in District Treasury Accounts are given in the annexed Statement [a] No. 1. The figures of revenue and expenditure for the taluks are not separately available in the office of the Accountant-General.

Statement No. 1 does not include—

(1) the revenue and expenditure in the Public Works and Forest departmental accounts as figures are not available for these departments by districts;

(2) revenue or expenditure relating to the districts, booked outside the districts, for example, that relating to the Governor, Legislature, Secretariat, Heads of Departments, High Court, Debit charges, Stationery and Printing, Expenditure in England, Pension liability of headquarters establishments and the like.

(*b*) *to* (*d*) The information available is given in the Statement [a] No. II.

[a] Printed as Appendix XIV on pages 306—310 infra.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have to announce to the House that the following message, dated the 13th December 1938, has been received by me from the Hon. the Speaker of the Madras Legislative Assembly :— 11-45 a.m.

' In accordance with rule 94 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I transmit a copy of the Mappilla Marumakkattayam Bill (L.A. Bill No. 8 of 1937) as passed by the Assembly on the 7th December 1938, and signed by me, for the concurrence of the Council.' "

NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

A.—BILL.

III.—A BILL TO AMEND THE INDIAN SUCCESSION ACT, 1925 (L.C. BILL No. 2 OF 1938)

* MR. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Mr. President, I beg to move—

' *That the Bill*[a] *to amend the Indian Succession Act,* 1925 (*L.C. Bill No.* 2 *of* 1938), *be referred to a Select Committee* (*names of the Members of the Committee to be given later*).'

" This Bill seeks to place the Indian Christians on the same level as the Muslims and, to a large extent, the Hindus—all Hindus except those residing in the Presidency town, Madras City. I only plead for the removal of the injustice under which we, Indian Christians, have been labouring. What I say is that we should be placed on the same level as the other communities. The Statement of Objects and Reasons which is appended will explain briefly the grounds on which this appeal is made to the Council. For a better understanding of the Statement of Objects and Reasons, I shall read section 213 of the Indian Succession Act:

' No right as executor or legatee can be established in any court of justice, unless a court of competent jurisdiction in British India has granted probate of the will under which the right is claimed, or has granted letters of administration with the will or with a copy of an authenticated copy of the will annexed.

(2) This section shall not apply in the case of wills made by Muhammadans and shall only apply in the case of wills made by any Hindu, Buddhist, Sikh, or Jaina where such wills are of the classes specified in clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of section 57.'

The other relevant section which I shall read is section 370. It says:

' A succession certificate (hereinafter in this part referred to as a certificate) shall not be granted under this part with respect to any debt or security to which a right is required by section 212 or section 213 to be established by letters of administration or probate:

Provided that nothing contained in this section shall be deemed to prevent the grant of a certificate to any person claiming to be entitled to the effects of a deceased Indian Christian, or to any part thereof, with respect to any debt or security, by reason that a right thereto can be established by letters of administration under this Act.'

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[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 23rd August 1938.